

# TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

JOHN M. COWAN, B.A., M.B., B.C.,

FELLOW OF THE FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.



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## Contributions to Medical Literature.

A CASE OF CREOSOTE POISONING IN A CHILD.—

*Glasgow Medical Journal*, February, 1897.

ON THE PRESYSTOLIC MURMUR.—*Glasgow Medical Journal*,

March, 1898.



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14 WOODSIDE CRESCENT,  
GLASGOW, *December 14<sup>th</sup>*, 1898.

*TO THE MANAGERS OF  
THE WESTERN INFIRMARY.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to offer myself as a candidate for a post in the Medical Dispensary of the Western Infirmary.

I went up to Cambridge in 1888, and graduated in 1891 as B.A. (Honours) in the Science Tripos. In October, 1891, I returned to Glasgow and completed my Medical education in the University and Western Infirmary, graduating M.B., B.C. Cantab., in the spring of 1895. I am also a Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (by exam.).

During my Glasgow curriculum, I gained first class certificates in the University classes of Dr. Anderson, Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Murdoch Cameron, and Dr. Macewen, and also in Dr. Samson Gemmell's class in Anderson's College.

Since graduating in 1895, I have acted as House Surgeon and House Physician in the Western Infirmary (1895-96), House Physician in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children (1896), and as Assistant Physician in the City of Glasgow Fever Hospitals (1897-98).

I append testimonials from some of my old teachers and hospital chiefs.

Should I have the honour of being elected, I shall discharge the duties to the best of my abilities, and, I trust, to your satisfaction.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN M. COWAN.



## TESTIMONIALS.

*From* T. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT, M.D., *Regius Professor of  
Medicine, University of Cambridge.*

ST. RADEGVND'S,  
CAMBRIDGE, 28th Jan., 1896.

IT is my rule not to give testimonials to graduates who in the final examinations are not among those placed at the head of the list. I find that five men were considered in Mr. Cowan's year to deserve places in this order, but as I find on reference that in the Pathology group Mr. Cowan stood very well, and that in the Medicine group he was but 12 marks (out of 400) behind the fifth and last man placed, and as, moreover, I remember that he read a good thesis in keeping the Act for his degree, I have gladly consented to be guided rather by the spirit than by the letter of my rule, and cordially testify to the creditable position taken by Mr. Cowan in his graduation and express my confidence in his abilities and attainments.

T. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT.

ST. RADEGVND'S,  
CAMBRIDGE, Nov., 1898.

DEAR DR. COWAN,

By all means make use of the testimonial you enclose, now or on any future occasion. It will be better not to alter the date, but to append this letter as a "post-script." I cordially wish you success.

Yours very truly,

T. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT.

*From* T. M'CALL ANDERSON, *Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of Glasgow.*

2 WOODSIDE TERRACE,  
GLASGOW, *November, 1898.*

I HAVE great pleasure in complying with MR. JOHN M. COWAN'S request for a testimonial. The son of an eminent physician, he bids fair to follow in his father's footsteps. In my own class of Clinical Medicine he was the most distinguished student of his year, and I am aware that he has pursued the other branches of the Medical Curriculum with equal assiduity and success. He is very highly educated, and is a graduate in Arts and in Medicine of the University of Cambridge.

I have little doubt that he will make his mark in the profession, and I heartily wish him success.

T. M'CALL ANDERSON.

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*From* GEORGE BUCHANAN, M.D., *Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of Glasgow.*

193 BATH STREET,  
GLASGOW, *5th December, 1898.*

DR. JOHN M. COWAN, after passing through a successful career as a student, and taking his degree, acted for six months as house surgeon in my wards, and performed all the duties of that office to my entire satisfaction. From the efficiency of his assistance to me, and his experience elsewhere, I am quite satisfied that he is well qualified for one of the appointments in the medical department of the Western Infirmary Dispensary.

GEORGE BUCHANAN.

*From* HECTOR C. CAMERON, *Surgeon and Lecturer on Clinical Surgery, Western Infirmary; President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.*

200 BATH STREET,  
GLASGOW, 10th December, 1898.

AMONG all the younger Physicians in Glasgow whom I know, there is no one whom I consider better entitled than DR. JOHN M. COWAN, both by character and professional acquirements and training, to be added to the staff of one of our General Hospitals.

Dr. Cowan was an industrious and excellent student, and has a knowledge of Medicine such as only a few, at his stage in the profession, possess.

He is an enthusiast in his work, and I sincerely hope that he will succeed now in obtaining the opportunity of utilizing his knowledge, and at the same time adding to his experience, in the practice of the out-door department of the Western Infirmary.

I feel sure that he has before him a career of great usefulness and credit, and I shall feel great pleasure in hearing that he has been added to the staff of the Infirmary.

HECTOR C. CAMERON.

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*From* JAMES FINLAYSON, M.D., *Physician to the Glasgow Western Infirmary; Consulting Physician to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, etc.*

2 WOODSIDE PLACE, CHARING CROSS,  
GLASGOW, November 30, 1898.

MR. JOHN M. COWAN, M.B., came under my notice very directly, while he was resident, as house physician, at the Children's Hospital here.



While acting there, he showed great interest in the little patients, and marked ability in watching and reporting the cases. He was on duty for nearly a year.

From his course of education and his experience, as resident at various hospitals, I think his application for an appointment to the out-patient department of the Infirmary deserves every consideration, as he seems likely to make a good use of such advantages.

JAMES FINLAYSON.

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*From* SAMSON GEMMELL, M.D.

17 WOODSIDE PLACE, CHARING CROSS,  
GLASGOW, *Dec.* 10, 1898.

DR. JOHN COWAN has been long known to me as one of the most promising of the younger medical men in Glasgow. He has had a sound and varied professional training, and I have good reason to know that he is not only a skilful physician, but an original observer. A paper recently published by him is instinct with qualities which lead me to anticipate for him a distinguished career.

I do not think a more eligible candidate will be found for the post to which he now aspires ; and I can recommend him to the Managers of the Western Infirmary as one who will discharge the duties committed to him, not only conscientiously and thoroughly, but in such a fashion as to reflect every credit upon the institution.

SAMSON GEMMELL.

*From* ARTHUR LATHAM, M.A., M.B. Oxon., M.R.C.P. Lond., *Assistant Physician, Victoria Hospital for Children ; Medical Registrar, St. George's Hospital ; late Radcliffe Travelling Fellow.*

13 BRUTON STREET,  
BERKELEY SQUARE, W., *Nov. 16, 1898.*

IT is with unusual confidence that I venture to support DR. JOHN COWAN'S application for the post of Dispensary Physician at the Western Infirmary.

I have known Dr. Cowan for many years, and have watched his medical career from its commencement. Dr. Cowan has had exceptional opportunities of learning his profession in both its theoretical and its practical aspects. In addition to this, Dr. Cowan has an earnestness and enthusiasm for his work which is tempered by great breadth of judgment.

I believe Dr. Cowan is more than ordinarily qualified for the post he now seeks, and I am sure that he will prove a most agreeable colleague.

ARTHUR LATHAM.

*From* ALEX. MACALISTER, M.D., *Professor of Medicine in the University of Cambridge.*

CAMBRIDGE, *Nov. 22, 1898.*

DEAR COWAN,—You have the best wishes of all your teachers here for your success in your candidature for the Dispensary Physicianship now vacant. The industry and assiduity with which you worked when here ; the success

with which you passed your examinations, and the high estimate which your teachers and examiners entertain as to your capacities and qualifications, are well known to us here, and we are very glad to express our appreciation of your work, and to commend you to the consideration of the electors.

With kindest regards and best wishes, believe me, very sincerely yours,

ALEX. MACALISTER.

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*From* JAS. B. RUSSELL, M.D., *Medical Member of the  
Local Government Board for Scotland.*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD,  
EDINBURGH, *Dec.* 9, 1898.

DR. JOHN M. COWAN, after serving as a resident in the Western Infirmary and Royal Hospital for Sick Children, had charge of wards in the Fever Hospital, Belvidere. He is a cultured gentleman, and has built, upon the substratum of a liberal education, a large practical experience of his profession. Dr. Cowan has already proved his inheritance of the ability to observe carefully, think clearly, and express himself with ease, in two short papers which he has published.

In my opinion, Dr. Cowan would be a very desirable addition to the dispensary staff of the Western Infirmary.

JAS. B. RUSSELL.



*From SIR WILLIAM STOKES, M.D., Surgeon in Ordinary  
to H.M. the Queen in Ireland.*

5 MERRION SQUARE,  
DUBLIN, *Nov. 16, 1898.*

IT gives me much pleasure in bearing my testimony to DR. J. COWAN'S abilities and professional attainments. Of this I can speak in the highest terms. Dr. Cowan has had a much greater practical experience than falls to the lot of most gentlemen of his standing, and of this he has fully availed himself. I earnestly recommend him as exceptionally well fitted to undertake the duties of Medical Officer to any of our great Medical Charities, and feel confident that the duties of any professional trust reposed in him will be discharged conscientiously and with efficiency. He has my best wishes.

WILLIAM STOKES.

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*From G. P. TENNENT, M.D., Honorary Consulting  
Physician, Western Infirmary.*

159 BATH STREET,  
GLASGOW, *12th December, 1898.*

I DESIRE to give DR. JOHN M. COWAN my heartiest recommendation in his application for the appointment of Dispensary Physician to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow. Dr. Cowan's medical education has been unusually complete. Of his Clinical work, while a student, I had ample personal experience, and I was then led to form a very high estimate of his abilities. After graduating, Dr. Cowan acted for upwards of six

months as Resident Physician in charge of my wards in the Western Infirmary, and my intimate knowledge of him over that period only tended to intensify and more than fully confirm the very high opinion of his abilities already formed. Subsequently, Dr. Cowan was appointed Resident Medical Officer of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, and after holding this appointment for nine months, he was elected one of the Assistant Physicians to the City Fever Hospital at Belvidere, where he remained for a further period of six months. Recently, he has obtained by examination the Fellowship of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow. I regard Dr. Cowan as one of the ablest and most accomplished of the younger members of the Profession, and there are in my opinion few more eminently worthy of, or who will more admirably discharge the duties of, the appointment he now desires to obtain.

G. P. TENNENT, M.D.



